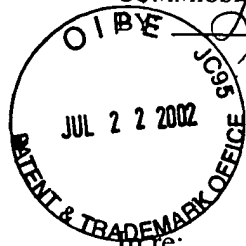


I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

DATE:

July 15, 2002

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Patent Application of : Group Art Unit 1646
Sean A. McCarthy, et al. :
: Conf. No.: 5645 :
: Appln. No.: 09/578,063 : Examiner: Dong Jiang
: Filed: May 24, 2000 :
: For: PROTEINS HAVING DIAGNOSTIC, : Attorney Docket
PREVENTIVE THERAPEUTIC, AND : No. 10147-6U1
OTHER USES : (MBI099-030CP1)

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AMENDMENT

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed February 13, 2002 (Paper No. 10), in the above-identified patent application. The Amendment is timely filed by virtue of the enclosed Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time, which extends the period available for responding through and including July 15, 2002 (July 13 and 14 being Saturday and Sunday).

Please amend the application as follows.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 27, 31, 32, and 37, without prejudice to inclusion of the subject matter of these claims in one or more additional patent applications.

Please amend claims 8, 9, 24-26, 28, 30, and 35 to read as follows. For the Examiner's convenience, a "**Marked Up Copy of Claims Amended**" is included with this Amendment, in which text added to the claims is underlined and text deleted from the claims is ~~struck through~~. Also enclosed is a "**Clean Copy of Claims, as Amended**" in which all claims pending after entry of this Amendment are listed, in an order which the Applicants believe is appropriate for issue. Please amend claims 8, 9, 24-26, 28, 30, and 35 to read as follows.